

SUCCESS STORY



JANINA M.

April 1, 2015

Brief background on customer.

Janina has been an artist her whole life and maintains a passion for graphic design and creating. She also has a lifelong love for horses and worked as an exercise rider of thoroughbreds for over thirty years. Janina has also been employed and self employed as a graphic design artist off and on throughout her career but came to the Career Center seeking assistance to secure something full time and stable. She had a strong interest in 3-D modeling and computer aided drafting and was interested in attending HVCC in their intensive CAD Certificate Program.

How did we assist the customer?

We were able to provide her with a training grant from the Workforce Investment Act to assist her with tuition and books. Her training in the Computer Aided Drafting Certificate Program began August 25, 2014 at Hudson Valley Community College and ends later this year after completing her 2 semester coursework as well as a 190 hour internship. Our office assisted her with a 599 application and processing, and additionally supported her with transportation in the form of gas cards on a monthly basis as she was traveling from Saratoga County to Troy, NY for training. We provided her with an initial assessment, career guidance and a resume critique. She was also sent job leads for CAD and designer employment with possible internship opportunities, which includes the one that she just got hired in.

How did the customer do with their training?

Janina has maintained an A average throughout her entire training. She was accepted on to the President's List at HVCC for academic excellence for the Fall Semester of 2014. Recently, she has also been invited to join Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, the largest and one of the most prestigious honor societies in higher education.

Janina was terrific about following up, forwarding her schedules and grades and doing anything that was asked of her as a grant recipient and nominally, proudly showed displays of some of her talented work.

Where is the customer working?

Janina is currently employed by means of a paid internship at Latham Pool Products, Inc. of Latham, NY. She is a CAD Technician starting at \$13.00 an hour part time while she completes her training at HVCC. In May, she will complete her class room training at HVCC and begin full time employment with the company at a \$2.00 increase in pay and benefits after 90 days.

Why did the customer choose this training program?

Janina already knew she wanted to train for 3-D modeling and CAD. The main reason she chose the HVCC certificate program is because of their thoughtful and acknowledged curriculum and programming as well as connections with the local businesses. The program also includes a career planning course that aided her with preparations in the job search market. The course inclusively requires setting up a minimum of five informational interviews with different companies aiming toward a mandatory internship.

How does the customer feel about our Career Center and the services they received?

Janina states that she felt that the Career Center provided her with the opportunity to enter the training program because of the financial assistance as she could not afford the cost on her own. She states that her employment counselor was always supportive and assisted in any capacity she was able throughout her training process.

She was very displeased with the lack of customer service received from the NYS Unemployment Insurance Division but understood that it was not a part of the Career Center services.

What has the opportunity we provided them with done for their career and or life in general?

Janina states that the opportunity encouraged her to go on and learn a new skill, in order to become more marketable and ultimately assisted her in obtaining full time employment.

“Becoming reassessed with a new skill set claimed from an educational establishment definitely holds a greater hierarchy in an employer’s critique when sifting for new employees. This thought set my goal to return to school, though I couldn’t have done it without the support and financial aid that I received from the Saratoga One Stop program, and most definitely, my friend, Katherine Raymond.”

– Janina M.